

# General SNAP Outreach Resources

## General Information

### Main SNAP Web page

A starting point for general information about SNAP.

[www.fns.usda.gov/snap/](http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/)

### History of the SNAP Program

Provides a brief history of SNAP from 1939 to the present.

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/rules/Legislation/about.htm>

### Legislation, Rules, Waivers, and Certification Policy

Includes a waiver database showing which States have received waivers of sections of SNAP rules for specific purposes or to accommodate local conditions.

[http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/government/legislation\\_rules\\_cert.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/government/legislation_rules_cert.htm)

### USDA Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

Background information about USDA's initiatives for faith-based and community organizations.

[www.usda.gov/fbci](http://www.usda.gov/fbci)

## Research Studies

### Office of Research and Analysis (ORA)

Regularly released research studies that might prove useful in your outreach efforts. For the latest research and studies issued by the Food and Nutrition Service visit:

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/ora>

## SNAP Communication Tools

### Main SNAP Outreach Web page

A starting point for information about SNAP outreach including information about developing and submitting an optional State SNAP outreach plan for FNS approval; the SNAP outreach coalition; and promising outreach practices.

[www.fns.usda.gov/snap/outreach/default.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/outreach/default.htm)

### SNAP Radio PSAs

A compilation of USDA's SNAP radio public service announcements.

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/outreach/radio/default.htm>

### SNAP TV PSAs

Two 30-second video public service announcements (PSAs) in English and Spanish. They are suitable for both TV and in-store broadcast and can also be used in meetings and presentations.

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/outreach/psas.htm>

### Radio Novelas

A compilation of 10 two-minute Spanish public service announcements in the form of radio novelas or miniseries.

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/radio/default.htm>

### SNAP Newsletter Article

A prewritten newsletter article to use in informing your clients of the new SNAP name.

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/roll-out/newsletter-article.pdf>

### SNAP Newsletter Paragraph

A prewritten newsletter paragraph to use in informing your clients of the new SNAP name.

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/roll-out/newsletter-paragraph.pdf>

## Other SNAP Outreach Resources

### SNAP State Policy Guidance

FNS provides guidance on implementing program policy to State SNAP agencies through memos to its seven regional offices.

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/outreach/guidance/stateplan.htm>

The regional offices distribute the guidance to the State agencies with which they work.

[http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/government/certification\\_policy.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/government/certification_policy.htm)

### SNAP Outreach Coalition Information

A core group of national antihunger advocacy groups, and other groups interested in promoting the health and nutrition benefits of SNAP. These organizations work to end hunger and improve nutrition at the national level through both advocacy and outreach to local antihunger projects.

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/outreach/default.htm>

### USDA Grant Information

Information about past and future research grants given by USDA to nonprofit organizations and others to improve access to SNAP by low-income persons and families.

[www.fns.usda.gov/snap/outreach/grants.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/outreach/grants.htm)

### Hunger Champions Information and Applications

Established to honor local offices that provide exemplary service in assisting eligible clients to obtain SNAP benefits.

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/outreach/default.htm>

### Broad-based Categorical Eligibility

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/rules/Memo/2010/121809.pdf>

## Prescreening and Application Assistance

### FNS Prescreening Tool (Step 1)

This simple, low-literacy online prescreening tool enables users to input their information privately and, based on their information, tells them if they might be eligible for SNAP benefits and how much they might receive.

<http://www.snap-step1.usda.gov/fns/>

### Links to Downloadable SNAP Applications and Local Office Locators

Features a United States map. Click on a State to find links to that State's downloadable SNAP application, links to local office locators, and list of outreach providers.

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/outreach/map.htm>

### Combined Application Project (CAP)

As part of FNS' priority to improve access to SNAP, the agency is working in collaboration with regional offices, States and the Social Security Administration (SSA) to increase access to the nutrition benefits offered by SNAP for elderly and disabled populations receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI). The Combined Application Project (CAP) demonstrations make it much easier for the elderly and disabled SSI recipients to receive SNAP benefits by reengineering the SNAP application process and eliminating the need for this population to visit the local SNAP office.

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/government/program-improvement.htm>

## Research, Data, and Statistics

### SNAP Participation Data

Features data and studies about participation in SNAP and the characteristics of households receiving SNAP benefits. Also includes evaluation reports for past FNS outreach grant programs from 1993-1994 (see “Food Stamp Client Enrollment Assistance Demonstration Projects: Final Evaluation Report, July 1999”) and 2001 (see “Research Grants to Improve SNAP Access Through Partnerships and Technology: 2001 Program Evaluation Summary – September 2004”).  
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/oane/MENU/Published/SNAP/participation.htm>

### Economic Impact of SNAP Benefits

Links to studies about the economic benefits of SNAP. The research was conducted by USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS), which is USDA's main source of economic information.  
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/outreach/business-case.htm>

### Impact of Food Assistance on Nutrition and Health

A comprehensive review that compiles and synthesizes published research about the impact of domestic food assistance programs on participants' nutrition and health outcomes. There are several volumes to the report.  
[www.ers.usda.gov/publications/fanrr19%2D3?](http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/fanrr19%2D3?)

### United States Census Bureau

Vast amounts of data on income and poverty levels, including data by county and State.  
[www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

## Nutrition Education

### SNAP Nutrition Connection

Features resources related to SNAP nutrition education including lists of State and local SNAP nutrition education cooperators (“State Gates”).  
[http://snap.nal.usda.gov/nal\\_display/index.php?tax\\_level=1&info\\_center=15](http://snap.nal.usda.gov/nal_display/index.php?tax_level=1&info_center=15)

### Eat Smart. Play Hard.™

FNS campaign to motivate children to be active and eat healthy. Features fun activities for kids and information for caregivers. Free materials available.  
<http://teamnutrition.usda.gov/Resources/eatsmartmaterials.html>

### Nutrition Education Resources

Links to national SNAP nutrition education resources including guidance for developing an optional State nutrition education plan and submitting it for FNS approval.  
<http://snap.nal.usda.gov/>

### Success And Challenges In Delivering Nutrition Education To Low Income Older Adults

A PowerPoint presentation advising outreach providers on how to effectively educate low-literacy older adults about good nutrition.  
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/ora/menu/NNEC/Files/Presentations/DeliveringNutEdOlderAdults.pdf>

## Information for Retailers

### General SNAP Information for Food Retailers

Main source of information about SNAP for food retailers including information about how to become an authorized retailer, frequently asked questions, and tips for food retailers about outreach.  
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/retailers/merchants.htm>

## Organizations Serving Older Adults

*Please note that this is a sampling of organizations serving older Americans and not a complete list.*

### The Administration on Aging (AoA)

An agency in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is one of the nation's largest providers of home- and community-based care for older persons and their caregivers. This network, serving about 7 million older persons and their caregivers, consists of 56 State Units on Aging; 655 Area Agencies on Aging; 233 Tribal and Native organizations; two organizations that serve Native Hawaiians; 29,000 service providers; and thousands of volunteers. These organizations provide assistance and services to older individuals and their families in urban, suburban, and rural areas throughout the United States.

[www.aoa.gov](http://www.aoa.gov)

### Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)

The CMS is a federal agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. CMS runs the Medicare and Medicaid programs - two national health care programs that benefit about 75 million Americans.

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov>

### Leadership Council of Aging Organizations

A large coalition of the nation's nonprofit organizations serving older Americans. There is a 56 member association which is diverse and dedicated to preserving and strengthening the well-being of America's older population. This national organization advocates on behalf of seniors and their families in the ongoing national debate on aging policy.

[www.lcao.org](http://www.lcao.org)

### Social Security Administration

The Social Security Administration (SSA) provides retirement and disability benefits to eligible Americans. Retirement benefits start at age 62 and are based on your average earnings during a lifetime of work under the Social Security system. SSA is responsible for two major programs that provide benefits based on disability: Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), which is based on prior work under Social Security, and Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Under SSI, payments are made on the basis of financial need. SSI disability benefits are payable to adults or children who are disabled or blind, have limited income and resources, meet the living arrangement requirements, and are otherwise eligible. SSDI benefits are payable to blind or disabled workers, widow(er)s, or adults disabled since childhood, who are otherwise eligible.

<http://www.ssa.gov>

### National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (N4A)

N4A is the umbrella organization for the 655 area agencies on aging (AAAs) and more than 230 Title VI Native American aging programs in the U.S. Through its presence in Washington, D.C., N4A advocates on behalf of the local aging agencies to ensure that needed resources and support services are available to older Americans.

[www.n4a.org](http://www.n4a.org)

### AARP Foundation

Founded in 1958, AARP Foundation is a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization that helps people 50 and over improve the quality of their lives.

[www.aarp.org](http://www.aarp.org)

### **National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP)**

NANASP is a professional membership organization with members drawn primarily from persons working in or interested in the field of aging, community-based services, and nutrition and the elderly. Founded in the 1970s, NANASP is one of the leadership organizations in that it helps shape national policy, trains service providers, and advocates on behalf of older adults.  
[www.nanasp.org](http://www.nanasp.org)

### **National Council on Aging**

A nonprofit service and advocacy organization. Brings together nonprofit organizations, businesses and government to develop creative solutions that improve the lives of all older adults.  
[www.ncoa.org](http://www.ncoa.org)

### **BenefitsCheckUp**

Developed and maintained by The National Council on Aging (NCOA), *BenefitsCheckUp* is the nation's most comprehensive Web-based service to screen for benefits programs for seniors with limited income and resources. *BenefitsCheckUp* helps older adults find and enroll in federal, State, local and private programs that help pay for prescription drugs, utility bills, meals, health care and other needs.  
[www.benefitscheckup.org](http://www.benefitscheckup.org)

### **Elder Care Locator**

The Eldercare Locator is a public service of the U.S. Administration on Aging. The Eldercare Locator is the first step to finding resources for older adults in any U.S. community. Just one phone call or Web site visit instantly connects individuals to eldercare resources in their communities.  
[www.eldercare.gov](http://www.eldercare.gov)

### **Community Transportation Association (CTA)**

Transportation planning and coordination, supported with sufficient investment in transit alternatives, can help communities more effectively and efficiently meet the needs of their seniors and ensure their essential place in community life.  
[www.ctaa.org](http://www.ctaa.org)

### **Senior Corps, Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)**

Senior Corps is a program of the Corporation for National and Community Service, an independent federal agency created to connect Americans of all ages and backgrounds with opportunities to give back to their communities and their nation. Senior Corps offers a network of programs that tap the rich experience, skills and talents of older citizens to meet community challenges. Among these programs is the Senior Companion Program which brings together volunteers age 55 and over with adults in their community who have difficulty with the simple tasks of day-to-day living. Companions help out on a personal level by assisting with shopping and light chores, interacting with doctors, or just making a friendly visit.  
[www.seniorcorps.gov](http://www.seniorcorps.gov)

## Additional Organizations

### Meals on Wheels Association of America (MOWAA)

MOWAA represents those who provide congregate and home-delivered meals services to people in need.

Most members are executive directors, Registered or Licensed Dietitians, volunteer coordinators, or nutrition directors at Meals-On-Wheels and congregate programs.

Membership in MOWAA is diverse.

[www.mowaa.org](http://www.mowaa.org)

### Families USA

A national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to the achievement of high-quality, affordable health care for all Americans.

[www.familiesusa.org](http://www.familiesusa.org)